

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

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**INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION**

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TO: Steven E. Chester, Director

FROM: Gary Butterfield, Chairperson, Toxics Steering Group, Air Quality Division

DATE: August 14, 2006

SUBJECT: Toxic Steering Group (TSG) Meeting Minutes

Attached for your review is a copy of the July 25, 2006, TSG meeting minutes.

If you have any questions regarding the minutes, please contact me.

GB:lh

Attachment

cc/att: Mitch Irwin, Director, MDA  
Keith Creagh, Deputy Director, MDA  
Janet Olszewski, Director, MDCH  
Jean Chabut, Chief Administrative Officer, Public Health Administration, MDCH  
Jim Sygo, Deputy Director, MDEQ  
Stanley F. Pruss, Deputy Director, MDEQ  
JoAnn Merrick, Senior Executive Assistant to the Director, MDEQ  
Richard Powers, WB, MDEQ  
George W. Bruchmann, WHMD, MDEQ  
Amy Butler, ESSD, MDEQ  
Harold R. Fitch, GLMD, MDEQ  
Andrew W. Hogarth, RRD, MDEQ  
G. Vinson Hellwig, AQD, MDEQ  
TSG Committee Members

**Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
Toxics Steering Group meeting minutes  
July 25, 2006**

**Members:**

Shannon Briggs, MDEQ/WB	Anne Kim, MDEQ/AQD (not present)
Christina Rose Bush, DCH	Deborah MacKenzie-Taylor, MDEQ/WHMD (not present)
Dennis Bush, MDEQ/WB	Amy Merricle, MDEQ/RRD
Gary Butterfield, MDEQ/AQD	Amy Perbeck, MDEQ/WB
Mike Depa, MDEQ/AQD	Margaret Sadoff, MDEQ/AQD
Linda Dykema, DCH (not present)	Robert Sills, MDEQ/AQD
Christine Flaga, MDEQ/RRD	Catherine Simon, MDEQ/AQD (not present)
Kay Fritz, MDEQ/WHMD	Divina Stemm, MDEQ/RRD
Kory Groetsch, DCH	Steve Weldert, DCH (not present)
Brian Hughes, MDA/PPPMD (not present)	Eric Wildfang, MDEQ/RRD
Mary Lee Hultin, MDEQ/AQD	
Erik Janus, DCH	

**Also in Attendance:**

Emily Weingartz, MDEQ/WB

1. It was pointed out that the meeting minutes from the April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting had incorrectly stated that the RRD lead soil cleanup value is 75 ppm. The lead soil direct contact cleanup value remains **400 ppm**. As a clarification, 75 ppm represents a total lead concentration at and below which separate lead analysis in the fine and coarse fractions of soil samples are not required. For the evaluation of the direct contact pathway where lead is a contaminant of concern, analysis of lead in the fine fraction is required because the fine fraction (defined as less than 250 microns in size) is most relevant for the direct contact pathway. In addition, lead concentrations in the fine fraction can be higher than the concentration in the total soil sample.
2. Two of the TSG members (Amy Merricle and Christina Rose Bush) are planning to attend the Midwestern States Risk Assessment Symposium during the week of August 21<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Jay Zhao of TERA will conduct a course on benchmark dose (BMD) methods there. They will give feedback at the next TSG meeting on the symposium highlights.
3. A short discussion on intranet team rooms, indicates that this may be a useful way for members to share documents during the drafting and editing process, as well as a means for members being able to share discussions of various issues. The PBDE subcommittee volunteered to try sharing their upcoming report during the editing process.
4. Manganese (Mn) soil samples around steel mills in the south Detroit area have been found to exceed particulate soil cleanup criteria (PSIC) values. A multiple division workgroup has been looking into this issue due to cross divisional interests. The workgroup consists of TSG members from WMD (Kay Fritz and Deb Mackenzie-Taylor), RRD (Divinia Stemm), AQD (Bob Sills), DCH (Chris Bush) and a non-TSG member Dave Slayton, who is a WHMD specialist. Kay Fritz presented issues relating to Mn contamination and the application of the RRD Mn cleanup criteria. On-site soil samples had relatively high levels of Mn, even near the property lines, indicating that it is possible that off-site soil sampling should be conducted to determine the full extent of the soil contamination. The extent of the contamination has an impact on the PSIC calculation, due to that calculation including a factor for size of contamination area. It was

suggested that other metals beside Mn be looked at; however, the workgroup pointed out that right now the PSIC for Mn is the driver for the cleanup. The TSG members decided that this workgroup has been fulfilling the role of a subcommittee and will be considered to be a TSG subcommittee in the future, which means that any report or recommendation from this subcommittee will undergo full TSG review and approval.

5. The following TSG goals/priorities were discussed.

- a) Benchmark Dose training – Amy Perbeck volunteered to investigate in more detail the possibility of having Dr. Zhao come to Lansing to conduct this training, looking into possible scheduling, total costs, and possibly how each division could pay for this training to occur.
- b) The epidemiology CD that Deb Mackenzie-Taylor suggested be obtained was thought by Cathy Simon to be worthwhile, based on the sample from the webpage. However, at the time of the meeting, no other member had yet looked at it.
- c) Cancer guideline implementation. There is possibility of getting training from some EPA staff on this issue. Annie Jarabek could possibly provide inhalation dosimetry training to TSG members, if members other than DEQ AQD were interested in that type of training. The EPA science policy website has some recent cancer guideline updates; see [http://epa.gov/osa/spc/cancer\\_guidelines.htm](http://epa.gov/osa/spc/cancer_guidelines.htm).

It may be possible to get other EPA staff to provide some training of this type.

- d) Dioxin NAS report - The NAS released their report on EPA's dioxin reassessment July 11. The NAS generally indicated additional work and additional documentation that EPA should complete and include in the reassessment documentation.
- e) Brown bag seminar series – There was some discussion on holding a monthly one-hour evaluation of a topic that is of interest to TSG members, similar to a journal club. This should perform the function of helping keep members informed and updated on the latest breaking issues - some of which may include nanotechnology, multi-chemical exposures, and PBPK modeling. As a potential meeting time and location, noon to 1:00 PM on the second Thursday of each month was selected, in Constitution Hall's Cushman conference room (1N). The series will begin August 10<sup>th</sup> with Maggie Sadoff talking about the benchmark dose process. The September 14<sup>th</sup> seminar may be utilized by the PBDE subcommittee for presentation of their report to the full TSG.

6. Subcommittee Updates

- a) Children's Health – The annual report to the DEQ Director is due to be finished by November 15<sup>th</sup>. A newly drafted format was distributed by Mary Lee Hultin. Members should respond by August 15<sup>th</sup> with comments on this draft format.
- b) PBDE – This subcommittee is hoping to finalize its report by the end on September. The report is focused on deca-PBDE, as both penta- and octa-PBDE are no longer manufactured in the US and legislation prohibiting their manufacture, processing, and distribution in Michigan has been passed. Many uncertainties still remain regarding deca-

BDE making the formulation of recommendations difficult. Because of the unanswered questions surrounding deca-BDE, new information is being published on a regular basis. New information/publications on PBDE are still becoming available, adding to the difficulty of finishing this report.

- c) UF – This group will hold a meeting in the near future, in hopes of being able to finalize a report.
- d) Dioxin – See the above discussion on the NAS report.
- e) Cancer Guidelines – It was proposed that this subcommittee be reinstated to investigate some of the implementation issues; see above section 5c. This possibility will be discussed with the former chair of that subcommittee, Cathy Simon.

The next TSG meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24, 2006.

GB:lh